

Annie L. Morrison and John H Haydon, 1917, *History of San Luis Obispo County and environs, California, with biographical sketches of the leading men and women of the county and environs who have been identified with the growth and development of the section from the early days to the present* (Los Angeles: Historic Record Company), pp. 690

PERCY JENNINGS MARGETTS.—A representative of an old family and himself born in California, on San Lorenzo creek, San Benito county, on the Monterey county line, Percy J. Margetts is a son of Charles U. Margetts, who was born in 1848, in Northamptonshire, England, and when twenty-seven years old landed at New York, and after a few days in the metropolis came to the "Far West." He settled near Hollister, in San Benito county, and there he worked as a sheep-herder for about nineteen months, to learn the business which was so profitable at that period. He then formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, R. J. Rogers, under the firm name of Rogers & Margetts, and starting on a small scale, buying and raising sheep, became in time one of the most extensive sheep-raisers in Monterey county.

From 1876 until 1882 Mr. Margetts gave his entire time and attention to the business as superintendent ; and when the partnership was dissolved, in 1882, Mr. Margetts went to the Carissa plains in San Luis Obispo County and here also became a large sheep-raiser, both buying a ranch and leasing some twenty-five hundred acres. Thus he continued the business until 1894, when he moved his family to Templeton and located them at what he named the Nine Oaks Ranch, so called on account of nine oak trees growing from one old stump. Here Mr. Margetts purchased some land and also became interested in the Templeton Milling Company- as a stockholder when the mill was being erected, and afterwards became president and manager of the concern. He was also interested in the maintenance of good schools and served as one of the members of the school board of Templeton for some time. He was prominent in the lodge of Odd Fellows, is a Republican, and a very well known man in San Luis Obispo County.

He was twice married. On the first occasion, in 1881, he was united with Miss Eleanor H. Jennings, a native of York, England, who died August 23, 1897, at Templeton, leaving four children—Amy, Mrs. Tucker of Shandon; Percy, the subject of this review; Frances, Mrs. Cliff Bickell of Paso Robles; and Ethel, Mrs. Wilbur Clark of Maricopa. In 1899 Mr. Margetts was married the second time, this union being with Mrs. Josephine Matthews, who already had one son, Walter Matthews. Mr. Margetts is now living at Shandon, where he is serving as postmaster and is also engaged in the real estate and insurance business.

Percy J. Margetts, born May 2, 1884. was educated in the public schools of Templeton and raised in the live stock business from a lad, in which line he has continued his interest up to the present time, while he is also engaged in teaming. In 1912 he was appointed roadmaster of District Number Twelve under Supervisor Black, and still maintains that position, having about one hundred miles of road to care for. He is a trustee of the Templeton school district.

On October 7. 1909, in Santa Barbara, occurred the marriage of Percy J. Margetts with Miss Flora Yancy, who was born in Red Bluff, Cal.. a daughter of Oliver Yancy, a native of Illinois, who came across the plains to California and settled in Tehama county; and at Red Bluff he engaged in the mercantile business and was for some time a traveling salesman. He is now engaged in business in Chico, he was married in Colusa county to Miss Bettie Cravens, a native of Missouri, and they had six children—Myrtle, Mrs. Weeks of Red Bluff ; Kate, Mrs. Edwards of Sacramento; Elora, Mrs. Margetts ; Chester, in Shasta county ; Glenia and Neva, both teachers in San Luis Obispo County. Mrs.

Margetts attended the public schools and graduated from the high school in Red Bluff in 1900, and later from the San Jose Normal in 1902. She taught in Tehama county two years and in 1904 came to Templeton and taught four years, and is now teaching at Oak Flat.

Mr. and Mrs. Margetts have three children—Kathryn Frances, Percy Jennings, Jr., and Don Usher. Both Mr. and Mrs. Margetts are active members of the Presbyterian Church, and both are musically inclined, thereby becoming popular in the social circles of Templeton and vicinity.